TOP OF THE HILL

Montgomery Bell Academy 4001 Harding Road, Nashville, TN 37205
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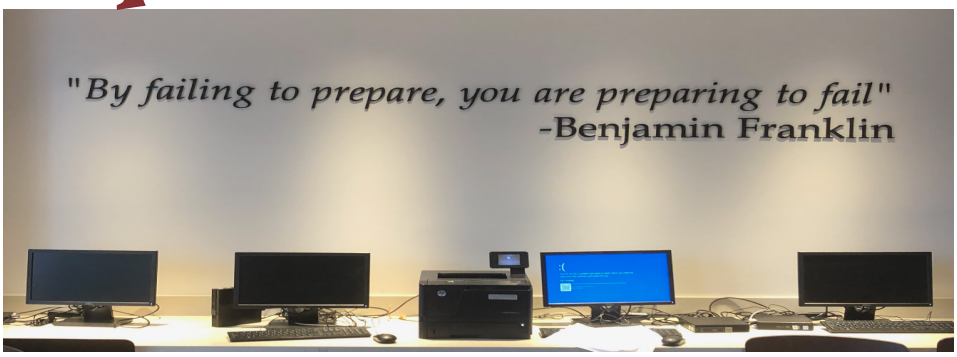
The April Issue

Say Goodbye to the PL Room!

By Middleton Henry



The PL Room computers are to be removed. As of recently the Junior School tech committee along with Junior School heads decided to remove the current computers from the Massey PL space. The desktops have experienced many software problems, including slow loading, crashes, and failures to start. Needless to say, they are outdated. There apparently have been problems with students' not following the guidelines of what they can do on the computers. Do you remember the "video game virus"? All of the keyboards and mice were taken. Only notes were left behind on the computers which said why these drastic measures were taken. It read "Video Game Virus - Do Not Use Computers" This method was the school computer police telling us, no more playing games. The main reason to discard the computers was student behavior. Students were playing video games on the computers.

Luckily, the technical staff at MBA found an alternative solution to all of these problems. Drum roll please... New Apple laptops are set to be installed before the next school year begins! The new computers are strong enough to run Adobe programs and should stay relevant for many years. The PL area will have a new modern look with glass tables and the new Apple computers with facial ID recognition. The facial ID not only increases the security of the Macs, but also keeps track of whoever accesses the computer. Every students and faculty member will have their face scanned at registration beginning in the fall. The search history of whoever has been on each computer is saved and viewed at the end of the day. This system means the computer will simply identify who was playing games by their facial Id. Computer privileges will continue while the student who is violating the rules would be tracked down and properly reprimanded. This sounds like a pretty good upgrade to me.

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Congratulations, MathCounts Team! City Champions for the 17th Time!

Spaghetti Supper Ticket Sales Requirement Doubled

By Browning Trainer

MBA has recently decided to double the minimum amount of Spaghetti Supper tickets that students have to sell. Now, students will be required to sell twenty 10-dollar tickets, and demerits will be given to students who fail to reach that mark. The increase in required Spaghetti Supper ticket sales occurred because the new athletic center will take up more parking space than was originally anticipated, and the parking lot being built at Vine Street Church will not be able to make up for it. MBA will have to purchase more property and build new parking lots to make sure that students, faculty, and visitors are able to park comfortably on campus. Because students will use both the parking lots and the athletic center, the MBA administration decided that students should put in an effort toward raising money and contributing to the cost of the facilities that they use. Ms. Stewart, a key member on the committee that decided to double expected ticket sales, says this of the decision: "I think that the boys sometimes do not appreciate the quality of the facilities that they use. They are very lucky to have the opportunities that they do on this campus, so making them put more effort into the payment for those facilities could make them more grateful."

However, the decision to double ticket sales is not yet final. There is a chance to overturn it. The committee, which is made up of many teachers, does not want to cause students to neglect their schoolwork in exchange for time spent selling tickets. So, they agreed that if 250 students sign a petition in one week, they would find another way to raise the money that does not involve student labor. As a student, I am very grateful for this possibility to prevent the mandatory sale of more tickets, as ten tickets is already hard enough. Anyone reading this article should tell everyone they know, high-schoolers included, to sign the petition. The petition will be posted outside Ms. Roberts' room in the upstairs of Massey during the week of April 1st. However, no matter how many signatures are on the petition, the petition sheets will be removed from the walls at 3:20 pm on Friday, April 5. It is imperative that all students find time to make it to Ms. Roberts' room before that time to sign the petition. Make sure to thank all of your teachers that may have been members of the committee for allowing us this opportunity to prevent increasing ticket sales. Remember, we need 250 signatures, so do not forget to sign the petition, not only for your own sake, but for the sake of your fellow students!

GET READY TO PERFORM!
April is National Poetry Month

It is Time for the Annual
Junior School Recitation Competition

Entry level performance competitions begin in each English class in April, with winners from each class moving on to the main competition in Massey Commons on Tuesday, April 9 and Wednesday, April 10.

The seventh-grade finalists and eighth-grade finalists will face off for the grade level winners on Wednesday, April 17 in the Dead Poets Room.

Prizes are awarded to each grade level winner.
Contact your English teacher or Mrs. Roberts for more information.

The Lowry Building Has a Flat Roof - What Should We Do with It?!

By Frank Hancock

Since the Lowry Building was opened in 2012, many teachers and students have been wondering, "what should we do with the flat top? It must be useful for something?" Finally, the school has found a purpose, more like a multi-purpose. The school will place a room on top of Lowry, but not just any room.

The room will be called Omnes Locus Speculum which is Latin for "All Glass Room." It will be called this because, well you guessed it. The walls and ceiling of this room will be all glass. Because of it, you will be able to see really far out in all directions from the campus. If you live close to MBA, you might be able to see your house when the time comes. You will be able to see the amazing Nashville traffic, the construction of the new athletic facilities, and anything else that can be see from our campus. The room will act somewhat like the PL Room in Massey or the Student Center in Lowry. This way all students will be able to do homework while looking out over the campus. It will be like any basic student center. It will have a couple lounge chairs, some tables with chairs, some computers, etc. But one thing that will not be so similar is the fact that it will be a green zone. Yes, a green zone! The administration made this decision because the library is starting to get overcrowded and loud during study halls, so students go somewhere else and get caught on their phones. They thought the new Lowry place would be a good idea because it is a cool, new area for students to interact. But the ultimate question about new green zones is...how long will it stay? The answer: you will have to see.

Now like anything ever created, there will be some restrictions. The first is a fat "L" for the junior school, you cannot go up their for study hall because it is in the high school territory. The pro side is your only in junior school for two years so you will be able to go up there soon. And when the time comes, who knows maybe your teachers will take you up there to see the construction when the building starts to take shape. And as usual the same rules apply as in any other student center on campus.

Finally, the school expects construction to start sometimes next year. With the parking at Vine Street, the construction in the alleyway behind Davis, and the field construction next to the gym, this project is at the bottom of things to do for this year, but somewhere at the top for next year. The school is very excited for this project and hopes it can get started as soon as possible.

The proposed dome for Lowry

The Revolution of Chairs

By Britton Busbee

"I am thrilled to see our school filled with this futuristic, groundbreaking technology. The people working at Nissan are visionaries. MBA will be state-of-the-art, and I am counting down the days until the chairs arrive." -Mrs. Stewart.

Everyone hates pushing in chairs, whether its a student running to his next class or a teacher after school. Developed in Japan, these new chairs will revolutionize our classrooms. Clap chairs are the first of its kind. With a simple clap, all the chairs push themselves in. MBA is getting these new gadgets, and our school is entering the age of enlightenment with furniture.

Nissan has paved the way for the future with their technology. The chairs which seem like they came out of science fiction are powered by electricity. With wheels under the legs, the chair can move around the classroom. Automatically built in, the chairs have the ability to "see." The furniture sends out pulses of energy that give a map of the area. You never have to worry about the chairs hitting a wall because it will automatically stop before it would hit it. A microphone built in, can recognize the vibrations of clapping. The algorithm then tells the chair to push itself in. Humans on average spend an hour a day pushing in chairs because of how much they are in our lives. Imagine if you had an extra hour of your day, it would be awesome. This technology has already been spreading across America with big businesses like Apple, Google, and many more. MBA is going to be the next place to have these chairs.

Although these chairs seem amazing, there is some problems that might be significant. If the power went out, would the chairs stop working? Though power outages are not frequent, it still would be bad. Imagine if the chairs were stuck pushed in and everyone had to either sit on the ground or stand because no one could move them! That would not be good. What if someone was still sitting in the chair, would it still push itself in? If someone was still in it and the chair pushed itself in, that could inflict significant damage on the person. If the chair wouldn't stop and just kept crushing the person, the chairs wouldn't be worth it. The chairs might overheat and start a fire. It would not be a good thing if MBA burned down because we couldn't push chairs in. Or if the chairs got a mind of their own and started a chair revolution. Okay that might not be a possibility, but we never know. The point I am trying to make is that we would have to be careful with the new furniture.

I am going to talk about design. The chairs have a rubber base, that may not be so comfortable. Legs of the chairs are metal, and under them is a box filled with wiring. The color is optional with the choices of black, brown, or gray. I know it sounds like Batman is designing the chairs, but hear me out. With orders over a hundred, Nissan will give you the option of custom designing. MBA will definitely have an order above one hundred if they do the whole school at once. I think a design of red and white might look good, but what do you think? If you think of a good design tell me, and I will relay the message to MBA faculty. These new chairs look really cool no matter what, so I am excited MBA will get them.

I am so excited to sit in these seats in my classes. We expect to get the chairs by next year or the year after at latest. Whether the chairs are given to the whole school or first the junior school, I don't know. Nissan is producing more and more of the chairs, so I doubt it will be too long. MBA is paving a path to the future with their upgrade of furniture, and I can't wait to see how it will change our school.

Students No Longer Allowed To Wear Non-MBA Sweatshirts/ Pullovers

By Browning Trainer

MBA has recently decided to bring back the MBA-only sweatshirts rule, which means that students can only wear sweatshirts or pullovers with the MBA logo on them. However, non-MBA winter jackets are allowed, and on casual days non-MBA sweatshirts are allowed. This rule is effective for both the Junior School and the High School beginning the third week after spring break, or the week of April 8th. In order to make sure all students have an opportunity to purchase MBA sweatshirts or jackets, the Big Red Store will be open from 1-4 pm every day of spring break and from 7-7:45 am and 3-6 pm on school days leading up to the official enforcement of the rule. Students who wear non-MBA sweatshirts or pullovers to school will be assessed two demerits for their first infraction, four for their second, and so on unless there are extenuating circumstances.

MBA has an interesting history with this rule. In the recent past, a required part of the student dress code concerning sweatshirts and pullovers was that they had to be affiliated with MBA. Then, the rule was changed to allow all appropriate brands/styles of sweatshirts and jackets, and now MBA is returning to the MBA-only sweatshirt and jacket rule. From MBA's perspective, there are several reasons why they decided to switch back to the old rule. One is that all students will have more similar-looking uniforms, so the school will look, feel, and seem more unified, not only to visitors but also to students and faculty. Another is that MBA sweatshirts are more easily available because students and their families do not have to go to a store or go out of their way; instead, they can just bring money to school, a place they would go anyway. A third reason why MBA switched back to the MBA-only sweatshirt policy is to prevent students from being bullied about the type of clothes they wear. Although MBA does not think that they are that type of institution, MBA realized that anything can happen and decided that the MBA-only sweatshirt rule would be a helpful step in stopping that. These are the reasons why MBA felt that it would be a good decision to return to the rule that only allows students to wear MBA sweatshirts or pullovers.

After April 8th, Patrick's sweatshirt will be illegal gear, so follow Evan and Andy's example

Even though almost all of us students may not agree with this rule or the logic behind it, we still have to obey it. So, make sure to remember to buy some MBA sweatshirts to wear to school during spring break or in the mornings or afternoons leading up to the week of April 8th, which is when the rule goes into effect. Also, although there will be plenty of reminders, do not forget--stop wearing your non-MBA sweatshirts to school starting April 8th.

Photo by Britton Busbee

Super Dome for 42nd Avenue

By Luke Murray

Image of glass bottom pool from snack area at the proposed 42nd Avenue facility.

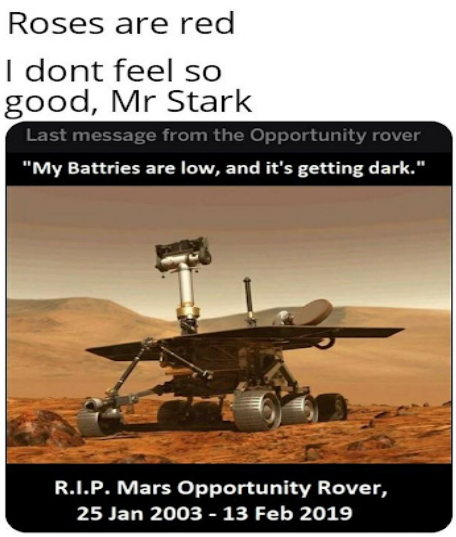
Every day many microbes take a short bus trip to 42nd Ave Park. Home to the Junior School lacrosse and baseball teams, MBA has decided to invest in a new Super Dome to house the many microbe sports. Paired with the new athletic center, it will be home to great sports in the JS for many years. The new dome is a significant investment for MBA, that will contain many features to create a unique experience for the everyday 7th and 8th grader. While the plans are early, it is going to be amazing and is set to include a brand new locker room for both MBA and visiting teams that will be built with every modern feature, including RGB lighting, heated seats, and custom lockers for each player. The locker room is just the start, just behind the right field fence will be home to the Big Red Pool which takes inspiration from the Arizona Diamondbacks field. This area will have a pool so fans can cannonball into the cooling water while viewing the game. For those of you who want to get close to the action, there will be seats right behind home plate so you can see dirt go flying, and Coach Kent Murphy ringing a kid up on strike three. While this new addition might be cool for an avid sports fan, what about the not so sporty student? The "dome" will also include a cafe which compliments all the food choices that are available to MBA students. The snack bar is right outside the lounge to get food and chill.

The finishing touch will be a roof mounted Olympic sized pool with a see-through floor. MBA did have to work around the weight of the massive pool, but as of now, it will make the final building. This dome will be a highlight of MBA and the motto we stand for Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete.

A Tribute To the Mars Rover

By William Perri

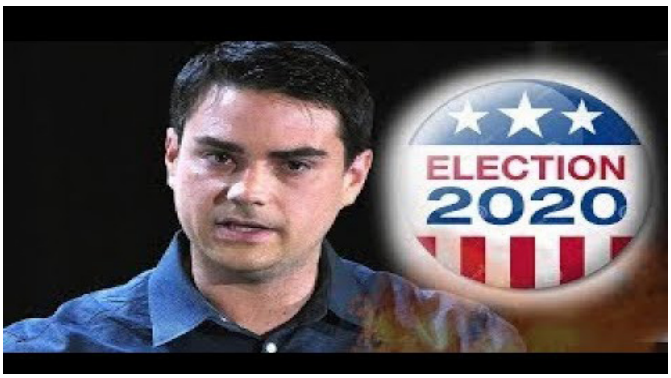
Tragedy has struck; everyone's favorite robot has died. The Mars Rover, Opportunity, passed away after surpassing his expected life span of 90 days and continuing to march on for 14 years. It gathered critical information that revealed evidence that life could have lived on ancient Mars millions of years ago. Opportunity first landed on Mars on January, 25, 2004. It was only supposed to travel less than a mile in its expected life span, but ended up traveling more than 28 miles on the red giant's surface. It set endurance and distance records that will likely not be beaten for years to come. Opportunity last contacted NASA on June, 10, 2018 and was confirmed to be dead on February, 13, 2019. It died after one of Mars' biggest storms hit, blocking the sun so the rover could not recharge its solar panel batteries. Opportunity had a twin rover named Spirit who made it passed its life expectancy also, but died in 2010 after getting stuck on rugged terrain. Opportunity's final words were "my batteries are low and it's getting dark".



It then became extremely famous for co-hosting meme review and getting a ten out of ten from pewdiepie, not only for Opportunity's memes but also for it's good heart. Opportunity is an inspiration to the world, for you should drive past what is expected of you, and drive to become better than you thought possible. The rover lived up to its name and showed the world that through hard work and determination, there is always opportunity.

A New Candidate on the Horizon?

By Charlie Murff



It is safe to say that the United States political system is messed up. At this moment, the President is the first president in history to not have prior political experience. Also in the house the youngest congresswoman in history is acting as a 10-term pro. So now, more than ever, Ben Shapiro feels that it is his turn in the national political spotlight. Which is why he is about to announce his candidacy for president. At only 35 years old it will be the first time that he will meet the age requirement to run for president. Shapiro has been in the political spotlight for a while now. Many people know him for his far right political views and the way he can destroy any argument with pure logic. But his story goes much further back.

He began his life in Los Angeles and always had good grades. After graduating from high school he attended the University of Los Angeles and had good enough grades to get into Harvard Law School for his law degree. After graduating Harvard he started practicing law. And through it all he was writing political articles about conservative America. Then in 2012, Shapiro became editor at large at *Breitbart News* which is an extremely conservative newspaper. Following that he founded the *Daily Wire* and is currently editor in chief. Around this time he gained large amounts of followers because of, like I said before, his far right ideals and ability to destroy any argument with logic. Despite false claims, Ben Shapiro is much more qualified than many other candidates in both the Democratic and Republican parties. So just in case you are 18 and do not know who to vote for, here are some of his views. He believes in the First and Second Amendments and is pro -life. As many of his other views are more extreme, he still holds a few Democratic views such as economic reform.

In conclusion, Ben Shapiro is finally running for president and will most likely poll very well. Under his leadership, the country may prosper or be destroyed; it is all up to time.

Source: Wikipedia. en.wikipedia.org/wiki/o. Accessed 12 Mar. 2019.

CREATIVE WRITING CONTESTS: WIN MONEY!

Jesse Hill Ford Short Story Contest

Who: 7th and 8th graders

What: Short story composed during the current school year.

Length: 3-8 pages, double-spaced

Prize: The best short story wins $150!

Due: Friday, April 19th

Turn in a printed copy and also e-mail a copy to Mrs. Roberts.

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The Rascoe Bond Davis Creative Writing Contest

Categories: Poetry and Fiction

1st place	$50
2nd place	$35
3rd place	$10

Turn in a printed copy and also e-mail a copy to Mrs. Roberts.

Junior School Entries ***Due by Friday, April 19th. Multiple submissions are welcome.***

Writers' Corner

"Crimson Dawn"

An Excerpt

By Chase Thor

The Grevling Arms H-15.00 went relatively unnoticed in the hands of Taylor Larsen, seeing that the world around the trained killer was in complete anarchy. Citizens from their early teens all the way to retirement age communed in the streets, diverting police and military resources from what should have been their number-one priority: the upkeep of the planetary shield. All part of the plan, thought Taylor as he pointlessly attempted to part the mindless crowd. Out of nowhere, a shot rang out in the marketplace, throwing a spark into the volatile protest. Immediately, the horde of Feahkylians swarmed to the sidewalks and out of the way of the advancing military police forces brandishing reinforced plastic shields in a terrifying wall. However, the MPs seemed just as surprised as the citizens about the stray shot. Though Larsen was sure that the discharge had come from a different weapon than his integrally suppressed H-15.00, he checked the ammunition count located on the top-right corner of his two-times-magnification red-dot scope. Sure enough, all twenty-six rounds were still in the rifle. Taylor removed a rag from his pocket and cleared the buildup of fog on the outside of his respirator. As he did this, a slim figure caught his eye. She sat on a crate in a fruit stand with a bullet hole in the tarp above her head, smoking pistol still in hand. Then, just as suddenly as she appeared, she disappeared into the receding crowd. Adjusting the grip on his rifle, Larsen shook his head and began the pursuit.

The crowd, now limited to the space of the sidewalk, was even harder to navigate than before. Occasionally, Taylor would catch a fleeting glimpse of the distinct blond hair which captured his attention moments before. Larsen continued to move with the crowd until he noticed a small alleyway coming up on his left. As the highly trained assassin stopped in front of the dead end, he failed to observe the same slim figure hiding just around the corner. The young girl jumped out, pistol in hand, and slammed the grip of the weapon into the back of Larsen's head. Taylor stumbled and fell, dropping his rifle in the process. When he regained enough strength to look up, he crossed his eyes to look at a still-steaming barrel pressed against his visor. Breathing out slowly, Larsen drew his knife, knocked the gun out of the girl's hand, and swept her legs out from under her in one swift movement. This act, in turn, resulted in the pistol's firing once again, this time attracting the attention of the MPs advancing on the rioters outside the alleyway. Taylor grabbed the girl's collar and proceeded to drag her, unwillingly, into a nearby doorway, kicking in the door and shoving her actively resisting body the rest of the way inside.

To be continued . . .

Thank you for reading an excerpt from my work-in-progress story 'Crimson Dawn!' Be sure to read my submission for the short story contest, which will explain many of the events in this piece. Hopefully, I will fully complete this story by the end of the summer so you will be able to read the rest by emailing me at chase.thor23@montgomerybell.edu. Again, thank you all so much for your support of my writing. I received many positive comments on my previous short story 'Freakshow,' and therefore, plan to continue this writing column until the end of the year. If you have a story, poem, screenplay, or another piece of creative writing, please email me at the aforementioned email address or talk to me in person. You may very well be featured in the next article!

Captain Marvel: Review

By Alex Deerkoski and Carter Ozburn

Was *Captain Marvel* great, or was it unnecessary and a liability to Marvel's movie lineup? Overall, I enjoyed the movie, and it surprised me in that way. The reviews were some of the worst that Marvel has received thus far, and after an eleven month anticipation since *Infinity War*, I was worried that all the hype would be for nothing. The movie creates intrigue for the viewer right out of the gate, begging questions about who Captain Marvel is. If you know going in who she is, then the movie's mystery factor will be gone, and it will be much less interesting.

The suspense carries throughout the movie, revealing an alien species, much like humans, with extremely advanced tech. They are also controlled by a mysterious Supreme Leader, an alien that takes the form of the one you most love. These aliens, called Kree, include Agent Veers, a human that has no memory of her past. What the movie does well is create compelling side characters. Young Nick Fury is interesting, and the villain is actually given character development throughout the film so that you understand his motives. In fact, even a side character who is a cat was a favorite to most in the theater.

Most of the action was extremely well done as it showcased what the character of Captain Marvel can do. However, the direction of the action is sometimes flawed. Many times, there is shaky camera work, making it difficult to tell what is going on. In addition, sometimes you hear punching sound effects, but you don't know what is causing those sound effects.

Brie Larson as Captain Marvel was a mixed choice for many who saw the movie. Even though she is a great actor, I think that in this film, she was just pretty good. Nothing more, nothing less. She is a likable character whom you care about, but she does not stand out like Robert Downey Jr. as Iron Man or Christ Pratt as Peter Quill. Also, I did not expect the movie to be as funny as it was. There are some times where the movie goes without humor, but when the movie is funny, it is very funny. Most of the banter is fueled by the side characters, which is what makes many of those supporting cast members likable.

This movie is a follow-up to one of the biggest and most anticipated movies of all time: *Infinity War*. I don't know if *Captain Marvel* fully lives up to its expectations, but it comes pretty close. A few things to mention: stay for the end of the credits, because there is an extra scene that takes place there. Also, one of the standout moments of the film is the tribute to Stan Lee, who will be remembered.

Synopsis: 8.5/10: *Captain Marvel* is a fun movie that cruises with its likable characters and well-made action that mostly lives up to its great expectations.

Got the Grades? Get the Cookies!

By Jose DeLemos

MBA TO GIVE 12 FREE COOKIES PER WEEK TO EVERY STUDENT THAT HAS THE BEST AVERAGE IN THEIR CLASS THAT WEEK

Cookie Break is one of the best things that MBA students get during the day. The warm, gooey chocolate chip cookie is what every student craves during second period. We all know that it is a hassle to remember to bring your $1 everyday to school, so MBA has decided to encourage students to do the best they can in their class by rewarding the student with the best average in the class that week. The way this works is as follows: Say you got a 96 on that Literature test and a 92 on that body paragraph that was due. Meanwhile, every student decided to slack off that week and watch *Youtube* all night. Well, you're in for a delicious treat! You just won the cookie prize for the week! So, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, you go to the snack area, scan your key card, and receive your 4 cookies for that day. Now, just because you got the best average in every class, doesn't mean that you get 60 cookies that week, you can get up to 2 cookie prizes per week, and the second place student will get the cookies that you could not get because that would be way too many cookies for you! I think that this is a great idea by MBA, and every student from now on will strive to the best in his class.

MBA to Host "Epic" *Fortnite* Event

By Samuel Kinch

Today is a good day for gamers alike. Three weeks before the posting of this article, the MBA community decided to make the pivotal decision to add a new branch to MBA's tree: gaming, backed by science teacher Dr. Lankford. He commented on the approval by saying, "It's gonna be epic." Many colleges as of late have opened eSports to the "collegiate sports arena" and have opened up scholarship programs to exceptional players, so it seems only fitting that MBA would open up its world to gaming. To jump-start the addition, MBA will be hosting a school-wide Duos *Fortnite* Tournament.

The event is looking to be like nothing MBA has done before, with decked out lights and stands, a video coverage of the entire event, commentators, AND professional player appearances that have yet to be announced; it looks like an amazing event. Now, how do you compete? Well, because of the significant amount of players interested, it gets complicated. The event will be fully

announced by school-wide email, and if you and your teammate show interest (as one entity), you will be put in a drawing, that determines what server you are playing in, and when you are playing. To make it to the Final Six©, you need to win your server and then your grade's championship. To win your server, you need to earn the most points over five games. You earn them by placing highly and getting kills: 2 points for every kill, .5 for a down (you get the .5 if you knock someone and cannot finish them off before they are revived, or you are killed), and each place gained is .5 of a point, making the winners get 5 points because we expect about 10 teams to be in each server. The winning teams (for each server within the grade) go on to a private server for five games, and the team with the most wins is grade champion, and one of the Final Six©. The champions meet in the big and small gyms for a final seven games, and the team with the most points is crowned MBA *Fortnite* Champion. Keep in mind that all of this is subject to change, and also that if this goes well then there will be more events like this to come.

The gaming movement does not stop here, not even close. Because in one year's time, you could be playing *Fortnite* for MBA.

Lawsuits over *Fortnite*?

By Luke Kim

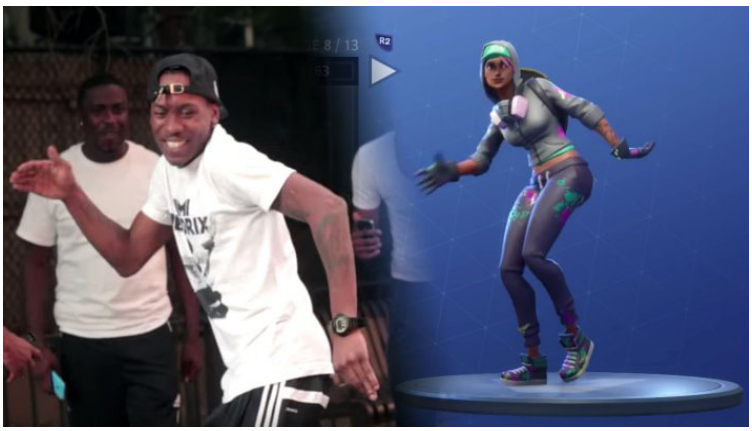
Alfonso Ribeiro sues Fortnite.

There is no doubt *Fortnite* is very influential, and one of the most popular games of all time. So why are they getting sued? Well, the truth is they aren't. The lawsuits have been dropped and are out of Epic Games' way. The lawsuits, focusing on the popular Emotes system, were being brought on by Alfonso Ribeiro, the *Fresh Prince of Bel-Air* actor, 2 Milly, the rapper, Backpack Kid, the floss guy, and even more.

To understand the situation, you need to understand the lawsuits. The persecutors were angered by the lack of compensation for the use of their dances in in-game Emotes. An unrelated case created the precedent that before copyright infringement, even for dances, a copyright must be in place. However, the first to announce his intentions to sue and to attempt to copyright, Alfonso Ribeiro, was denied in his search for a copyright. Epic Games has said, "No one can own a dance step." Epic Games should be in the clear because of the denials of the copyrights, but the situations are still scary and not only famous dancers are suing, but also pieces of the community. Orange Shirt Kid's exercise is another case entirely. I mean, why can Orange Shirt Kid sue since he sent it in to Epic Games as part of a contest.

So, they sued. Its over. Who cares. But this entire situation is more than just a lawsuit, it is a precedent for the future of game monetization and the morals of game design. Chance the Rapper said on his Twitter, "*Fortnite* should put the actual rap songs behind the dances that make so much money as Emotes." Black creatives created and popularized these dances but never monetized them. Imagine the money people are spending on these Emotes being shared with the artists that made them." The *Scrubs* actor Donald Faison also agrees that "some body stole that s***."

While it's hard to copyright a dance, something can still be said that these are creations that shouldn't be credited to the game that compiles them. BlocBoy JB said, "EveryTime Somebody Does My Dance Dey Give Credit To [*Fortnite*] But Dey Ain't Create Nothing But Da Game So Basically Dey Takin Money And Credit For My S*** Dats Crazy." While spelling and grammar wasn't acknowledged, a larger issue was. Games companies are getting money and credit for dances and pieces of pop culture created by others. This system can be bad and damaging for artists who get a new craze that could be their claim to fame stolen and lost to games like *Fortnite*. This situation also means a lot for the future of games and games companies. I think in the future it can be guaranteed that dances, ideas, symbols, memes, and pop culture will continue to be scooped up by games companies.



2 Milly drops lawsuit against Fortnite.

In the end, the lawsuits failed, and Epic Games keeps the cash and the Emotes, and future companies will do the same. We will still see the creation of these memes and dances; however, none will have their creator compensated for their work, which will mean less dances, memes, and incentive to create more.

Meanwhile, *Fortnite* is also seeing its community turn on them as prominent members leave and symbols of the game, like Orange Shirt Kid, turn. So while Epic is keeping their money, they're losing their game and their flow of money as creators don't want to work with Epic.

Or, is "Take on Me" the Best Song Ever?

By Charlie Murff

Whatever Samuel Kinch told you in the last issue about the song "Africa" by Toto is completely wrong. Yes, the best song ever by every standard is "Take On Me" by a-ha. The entire song and music video are both works of art. The song is a carefully crafted perfectly simple, yet an eloquent song.

The beginning of the song begins with a fantastic drum followed by a simple piano chord and riff that embeds itself in your mind. Thus, begins the first verse. Though short, it creates the main conflict in the song, the assumed man wants to date a girl but he doesn't know how to ask because he is too shy. Next comes the chorus, possibly, the most memorable chorus of all time. Most likely, you are even thinking about the song right now. The main line, "Take me on" is loosely translated in Norwegian to put me on (like clothing). Also you cannot forget the harmony that comes after every "Take on me." The repetition of "Take on me/Take me on" reveals the man's need for a response. Then at the end of the chorus, one of the highest notes sung in the history of music, even rivaling the assembly songs.

Next, the second verse begins with his explaining what he feels about her. This feeling includes things like "I'm odds end" which would be similar to being in love. The man tries to claim that he does not want her pity and to be safe in a way to protect himself from a break up. Then the chorus repeats again, and there is no need to repeat it. Then in the third verse the man is trying to get the girl to forget her past. The entire verse, though quick, is maybe the best verse in the song. In the outro he sings the iconic line, "Take on me/ Take me on" again and again. Then he starts singing about how he will not be there any more very soon. And then he repeats "Take me on" again. Finally he finishes with the line once again "I'll be gone in a day or two."

The song is most definitely better than any other song in history. It cannot be beat because of the following

points. First, it is much more catchy than "Africa." Second, it has a more meaningful story that is much more relatable. Third, it has some of the best music of the 20th century.

In conclusion, the song "Take On Me" by aha is the best song ever to be thought up and played.

Source:
Genius. genius.com/A-ha-take-on-me-lyrics. Accessed 12 Mar. 2019.

TOH Meetings are every Tuesday in M21!

2019 Tennessee Basketball Season

By Frank Hancock and Carter Ozburn

During his press conference after the Loyola/Chicago game last year, Rick Barnes said, "You know, they're crushed. We all are. And I told them, I said, 'Hey, one, I'm glad it hurts a little bit because I've had some teams sometimes that you wondered if it hurt deep enough.'" After a 63-62 loss to Loyola-Chicago last year, everyone knew this process was not over. Even though all Tennessee fans were dreaming about what last March could have ended in. The South Region was a total mess. With UMBC upsetting UVA for the first 16-over-1 defeat, Purdue defeated by Nevada and, Buffalo over Arizona, there was no reason for Tennessee to reach the Final Four. But Coach Barnes and the team had to begin preparing for the next season. Over the summer, the team worked harder than they ever had before because they knew this year was going to be special. Returning all of the players from last years' team except for one, Coach Barnes was going to work these guys to a SEC title and maybe a Final Four. He brought back defending SEC Player of the Year and First-Team Grant Williams, Second-Team Admiral Schofield, Sixth-Man of the Year Lamonté Turner, and more who were important to last year's team. But perhaps the most important player returning for the Vols was point guard Jordan Bone. Last year, the point guard play was one of the reasons Tennessee only got out of the second round, so over the summer, Coach Barnes worked Bone harder than ever. Coach Barnes knew if this team wanted to be great,

Admiral Schofield

Bone would have to play amazingly.

The Lenoir-Rhyne game was when Tennessee first displayed their determination and talent. Jordan Bone and Kyle Alexander led the way to a 45 point win over a tough team. Tennessee played just as well in several other wins at home vs Louisiana and Georgia Tech and a neutral site victory in Brooklyn against Louisville until late November. In the sad, heartbreak overtime loss against Kansas in Brooklyn as well, the team played well, with Peanut Butter and Jelly leading with 18 and 21 each. Kansas played extremely well and outplayed Tennessee in overtime. Tennessee's first loss of the season, and their only loss until mid-February.

After suffering their first loss of the season, the Vols rebounded against Eastern Kentucky in an easy win 95-67 with Grant Williams leading the way with 21 pts., 11 rebs., 5 assts., and 3 blks. Admiral Schofield also had 20 pts., and Yves Pons scoring 10 pts in his first start as a Vol. This game was the start of an important streak not only in the season but also in the history of Tennessee Basketball. Tennessee continued the same smack-down of teams with Texas A&M Corpus-Christi in the next game with the help of a double-double by Kyle Alexander.

The Gonzaga win was very impactful on Tennessee as a contending team. We beat the #1 seed and took that title for ourselves. Admiral Schofield proved his worth with 30 points, and extended his range with 6 three-pointers, including the game-winner with 24 seconds left. Now anyone who follows college basketball knows how hard it is to win after a big win over the #1 team in the nation and even harder on the road. The Vols' next task was a road trip to Memphis in the FedEx Forum. The veteran Vols team came in calm and poised to restart a rivalry that was stopped a couple years ago because tempers got too high. Many people hated it when the NCAA ended it because if you follow that rule then the Duke-UNC rivalry should be ended. Anyway, Tennessee came in and racked up 102 on the Tigers with a double-double from Admiral Schofield, who was coming off the biggest game of his life. After Memphis, the Vols kept trucking, winning their last three games against Samford, Wake Forest, and Tennessee Tech before the New Year.

Tennessee played fairly well for a #1 seed up until the Georgia game. Then, UT played like a tournament champion. Complete domination by UT was the story of that game, with Bowden, Schofield, and Williams all picking up 18 points. Three more easy SEC dubs follow with two road wins at Missouri and Florida, and a 106-points-scored home victory against Arkansas, until the fateful clutch Alabama game. The obvious travel by John Petty solidified a great win for UT, led by senior Grant Williams scoring over 20 points with 34 minutes of playing time. Many Alabama fans were angry after the game because of the travel, but if the replay is closely examined, you can see Petty's pivot foot move in which a travel is rightfully called.

The following Monday, the

Grant Williams

AP poll selected Tennessee #1 in the nation for the second time in school history. The last time was 2008, and you know what the next game was? It was a loss at Vanderbilt. Leading up to that Wednesday night, the Vols got a lot

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of criticism from the media about that 2008 loss and if it was a reminder of what was yet to come. To open up the game the Vols went on a 15-2 run and was in the driver seat. Most thought they would run away with it at this point, but the Vols let Vanderbilt back in it and had a one point lead at the half. In the second half, Vanderbilt shot lights-out from three-point land. It was the main factor that kept them in the game. At one point Vanderbilt went up 76-70, and Tennessee fans thought, "here we go again." But then came the most controversial call of the game that the refs got right. Grant Williams and Clevon Brown of Vanderbilt went up for a rebound and Brown hooked Grant Williams left arm and held it. Stated in the 2018-2019 NCAA Men's Basketball Rulebook and Interpretations, Rule 4, Section 15, Article 2, Letter d, Number 7: Illegal contact caused by a player hooking an opponent over or under the arm in an attempt to deceive the official into believing the contact was caused by the opponent. Depending on the nature of the contact or the result of the contact, this foul could be considered a flagrant 2 foul. This rule's interpretation agrees it was right for Brown to get the Flagrant 1 foul. This call sparked the six-point comeback Tennessee needed. After two free throws from Grant Williams, he scored again to make it a two-point game, and then Admiral Schofield came back with two points of his own to tie it up. By the end of regulation, it was tied at 76. Overtime was completely controlled by Tennessee. Grant Williams scored 10 of the Vols' 12 points. He finished the night with 43 points. Yes, he had 43 points! If you go back and look and his scores against Vanderbilt, his freshman year he had 12 which was pretty high for a freshman, 33 last year, and then 43 this year. Note they were all at Vanderbilt. In short, Grant owns Memorial Arena, and some fans were calling for him to have the key to the arena. The Vols survived and stayed number 1.

The West Virginia win was a domination of a sneaky good team that highlighted the young stars on UT. Lamonte Turner really delivered, scoring 23 against a historically good defensive team. Tennessee continued destroying SEC teams until the horrible loss against Kentucky, who played so well, and UT just did not live up to the Kentucky hype. But this loss showed us something. Coach Barnes even said,"That we have got to get better, and we've been talking about that all through this winning streak. We have to get better. It's not just about winning games. Obviously we have to win games, but through that you have to get better." Rick Barnes believed in his players. He believed in the process. But after that hard of a loss, you get angry. UT was very angry. Who did we take out our anger on? We took it out on Vanderbilt.

Sold out crowd for the first SEC game of the year

The rest of the regular season was very rocky for the Vols. In Tennessee's next game they lost at LSU, but you have to think part of the reason why the Vols lost by two was the official Anthony Jordan. In 2014, Jordan took a picture of him with an LSU shirt in Spain with a Twitter caption that said "Geaux Tigers". Many people took this as a sign that Jordan's total of 44 whistles and 29 against Tennessee when the other two only called a grand total of 42 combined was not a coincidence. Jordan was later reprimanded by the SEC. The next game was road trip to Ole Miss where Tennessee had to fight the entire game until the last minute when Williams scored, and Admiral Schofield drew a foul to seal the game for the Vols. Ole Miss fans will try to tell you that their team could have done something with 0.6 or so seconds left but you can't.

The first game for Tennessee in March was against Kentucky. This was one of those games that Tennessee completely controlled. After opening on a 6-0 run Kentucky barely lead again. The Vols lead by 20 for most of the second half. The victory was fueled by the amazing 27 point performance from point guard Jordan Bone. He balled out. After a beat-down of Mississippi State on senior night, the Vols suffered a confusing loss for Tennessee fans. The team look sloppy at the end and didn't look like they wanted it. It was probably because they were going to share the SEC Regular Season Title with LSU. But that was a weird reason too because the LSU title is most likely going to be vacated because of the FBI investigation into LSU Head Coach Will Wade. But the Vols were still in the conversation for a one-seed and national champions.

The Vols had multiple players with end-of-the-year honors. Grant Williams took home the Player of the Year Award for the second straight year over Kentucky's PJ Washington and LSU's Tremont Waters. Admiral Schofeild and Jordan Bone were selected onto SEC All-Second Team while Williams was First Team.

There has been one thing guiding this special basketball team all year and that is heart. In almost every game, you can see guys like Williams, Bone, and Schofield pour their heart out on the court. They have the desire to win and want more than just a regular season title. From day one Coach Barnes have said that these guys want "it" more than anybody. Whether it's working their tails off in the gym or at practice, watching their film closely, or just being a good teammate, the Vols definitely want more and with the amazing talent on this team, don't be surprised to see this team on top. And Vols fans can also remember this team years and years later and think, "What a Ride".

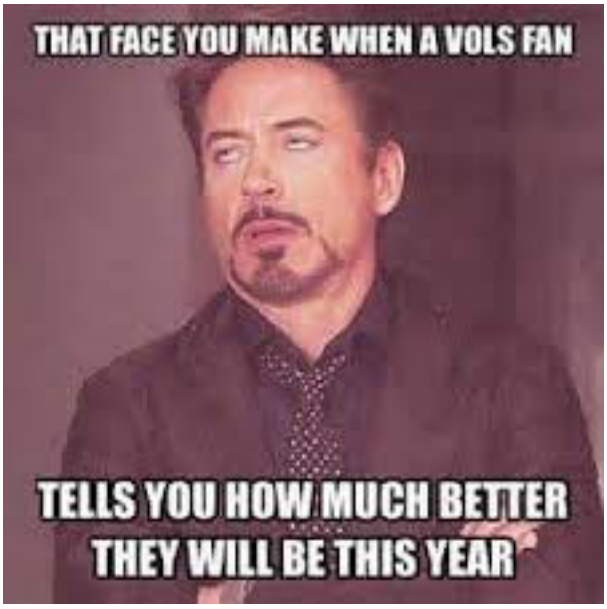
Sources:
UTsports.com-Tennessee Basketball Schedule
RockyTopTalk-Rick Barnes Says He Contacted the SEC About Anthony JordanN-Tennessee Men's Basketball Games

Tennessee Basketball Rebuttal-

By Andy Nunn and Will Elrod

Sure, Tennessee may be ranked in the top five of the country in basketball, and sure, they may be having one of their best seasons, but are they a legitimate national championship contender? Tennessee has failed to execute against many of the top teams in the nation and against some of the worst teams in the nation. For example, the Vols lost an early game against Kansas, who has been having a bad season, and also the fact that the Vols almost lost to Vanderbilt who has had their worst season ever, losing every single SEC conference game. Tennessee has also failed to execute in the month of February, which is the most important month of college basketball besides March Madness. February is the perfect month to show the experts that a team is clutch. Tennessee failed to do so. With three losses since the start of February, this Tennessee Volunteer team has choked under pressure. Although Tennessee did have an 18 game win streak, they could not capture important road games at LSU, Kentucky, and Auburn. If Tennessee had just won one of these games, they would have been SEC regular season co-champions. Also, the Vols have had LOTS of help from the officiating crew this year. For example, the "Hook and Hold" against Vanderbilt, which is most likely the most controversial call this year and also the charging foul called against Ole Miss' Devontae Shuler. This foul was called 30 feet away from the basket, and this foul changed the whole game, and it was also one of the most controversial calls this year.

This year LSU has the 20th hardest strength of schedule and Kentucky has the 22nd hardest strength of schedule while Tennessee has the 69th hardest strength of schedule. It is obvious that Tennessee can win home games, but can the Volunteers execute on a neutral court? Both LSU and Kentucky have been through adversity. One of LSU's players, Wade Sims, was shot and killed before the season started. Later in the year, their best player, Tremont Waters, got hurt before the game against Tennessee. LSU ended up defeating Tennessee after all of this adversity. At the beginning of the year, Kentucky was an average team with a lot of potential. The first few games, they were struggling with working together, but as the year went on, they started using their potential to become an elite team. Although Tennessee has shown great potential, they have cracked under pressure recently as they are starting to lose games. Both Kentucky and LSU have proven that they know how to come back from adversity, but Tennessee is not doing well right now when they are being tested. The Vols need a spark in their team, a chip on their shoulder, and a massive change in their team to turn this season around and to toughen up to play some actually good teams.



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March Madness Survey

By Frank Hancock

The *TOH* March Madness Survey had a good turnout of 130 reponses. We would like to thank all who participated. The participants were presented with five questions regarding the "what ifs" of this year's tournament. Here are the results:

Question 1: Which region will the national champion come out of?

There were four possible answers to this question: South, East, Midwest, and West. The South Region lead the way with 44.4% of the votes, then East with 33.3%, followed by 19.8% from the Midwest, and 2.4% from the West.

Question 2: Who was the Cinderella of this year's tournament?

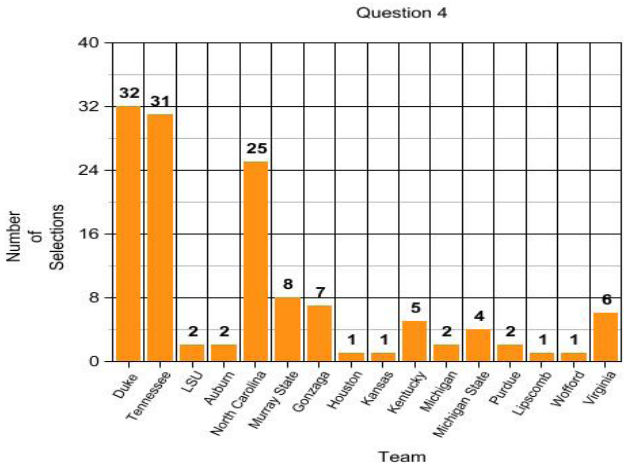
There were six possible answers to this question including a write-in option. Most people chose the fact Murray State of the OVC would make a deep run in the NCAA Tournament. The reason being the play of Ja Morant this year has been insane. The runner-up was Lipscomb at 21.1% of the votes, then Wofford with 14.3% of the voting, closely followed by Buffalo. Then the write-in options were a large sum of teams including Loyola Chicago, Ole Miss, Iowa, South Dakota State, and Northern Illinois.

Question 3: Which four teams will make it to the Final Four?

The participants were to choose from a collection of top 16ish teams who could make it to the Final Four. Duke lead the way with 103 votes for going to the Final Four, followed by Tennessee with 80 votes, North Carolina with 78 votes, and Gonzaga rounded out the top four with 55 votes. After the next two which were Kentucky with 54 votes and Virginia with 49, there was a large drop off with the soon-to-be-vacated SEC Champions LSU Tigers leading the way with 30 votes. Michigan had 26, followed by rival Michigan State's 16 votes. The last three were Houston with 9, and Texas Tech and Purdue both had 5.

Question 4: Who will the Naismith Award for the best player in College Basketball?

The six players who could have been chosen for this question were Zion Williamson of Duke, Grant Williams of Tennessee, R.J. Barrett of Duke, Carson Edwards of Purdue, Cassius Winston of Michigan State, and Rui Hachimura of Gonzaga. Zion, as expected, lead the way with 57.4% of the votes, followed by Grant Williams with 20.9%, and R.J. with 13.2% rounded by the top 3. Edwards had 4.7%, Hachimura had 3.1%, and Winston had just 0.8% of the votes with only 1 vote.



Question 5: Who will be this year's National Champion?

This question had a variety of answers, but the leader was Duke with 32 votes. Not far behind was Tennessee, carrying 31 votes. Third in the voting was North Carolina with 25 votes. After UNC, there was a gigantic drop off in voting. Murray State was the next highest with 8 votes, then Gonzaga with 7, and Virginia with 5. You can look at the graph for the others.

Overall, the survey had a great turnout and some of the results, especially to the last question were very interesting. We hope to do another survey soon.

A Team Basketball

By Alex Deerkoski

Overall, MBA had a great stand out this year in their basketball season. In the pre-season, they started out strong only losing to Grassland in a close game. However, the loss did not get the team down, as they ended up winning games to such teams as BGA and Ensworth.

As the season came to a close, the final game was against BGA. Even though we started out with a strong lead, BGA came back with their aggressiveness and determination. We were winning as the clock was winding down, and BGA made a shot at the VERY last second to tie the game back up. Then, the game continued into double overtime, where MBA finally took the lead to earn their second seed placement in the HVAC. Then came the semi-finals of the tournament against BGA. MBA kept a steady pace throughout the game, keeping a constant lead of about 5-to-7 points by getting rebounds and making critical decisions on offense. Though the team ended up losing in the finals of the tournament, that does not mean that the season was a failure. Before the season began, many believed that we would be an average team. However, those expectations were subverted by making it to the finals of the championship.

Overall, it was a very successful season, and everyone feels the same way.

B Team Basketball

By Connor Carr

Microbe B Basketball Team

The MBA Junior School B Basketball team had a great season this year. Led by Coach Moran, they ended with a winning record overall. The team heavily depended on both seventh and eighth graders this year. With no superstars on the team, the boys played team basketball, and that was the reason they won majority of games. Hogan Walker led the team this year. He had a great shot and great ball vision on the court, and that allowed him to score a lot and have lots of assists. Next we have Evan Viars. Evan had a great shot and combined with his height it was difficult to guard him. With his being such a threat to guard, other players became open, and it led to points every time. Next is Hutton Wall. Hutton is only a seventh grader, but he proved that age does not matter. His shot was lights out, and he was the fastest and most aggressive player on the team. Next is another seventh grader, Hutton Durrett. Hutton also had a great shot and was aggressive. Unfortunately he suffered a knee injury, but he still fought through it. Another huge help to our team was our seventh-grade point guard, Nick Brunetti. His ball handling was by far the best on the team, which started every play off right. Next was Connor O'Neil. Connor was a great shooter, and also made lots of players to get others open and to score. Then there was Thomas Dennis. Thomas also had a great shot and court vision. He had the highest scoring game this season of 20 points, 3 threes and multiple backdoor layups. Then there was Hampton Coleman. Hampton used his size well in the post and in getting others open. He was also extremely aggressive which led to multiple fast-break layups. Walker Musser had a great season this year. He used his size extremely well in the post and scored a lot. Next is Thomas Harwell. He was another essential point guard this year. He pulled off some of the best shots this year including multiple half-court buzzer beaters. Finally there was me, Connor Carr. Like Hampton I used my size in the post and to get others wide open shots.

Overall, this team had a great season. It was also an extremely fun team. We all had fun together and played well together. I am excited to see how the seventh graders this year do on a good A Team next year.

C-Team Basketball

By Cooper Davis

Microbe C Basketball Team

Overall, the C-team had a good season 9-1 with our only loss to Grace Christian. As a team we suffered many injuries. Soon after the season started, Cooper Coleman broke his thumb, and I got a concussion which put us both out for the season, but that did not stop us from having a successful season. After going 4-0 in the pre-season, we started our season off strong with a win over FRA. After the win over FRA, we went to Grace Christian to play their varsity team. Unfortunately, we lost, but we easily bounced back to have a great rest of the season.

After Grace Christian, we beat Lipscomb by seven points to bounce back from our loss. The team's next game was against Ensworth, and it was an easy win by 20-plus points. After that game, we got a week of practice before the big rivalry game against BA. The game was a tough fight, but we came out on top, winning by five points.

Additional games include USN and BGA, and both games saw the C-team coming out with wins. At the end of the season, two teams ,including St. Edwards, backed out, so our season ended early.

At the last scheduled practice we had party to celebrate our season and talk about the funniest times.

Overall, we had a successful season even though we battled some injuries and had a tough loss mid-way through the season. We bounced back and wrapped up the season successfully.

This April Fools issue and every issue of Top of the Hill would not be possible without the generous support of the MBA Mothers and Fathers Clubs. We the sponsors, staff, and writers thank you!

Photo by Britton Busbee

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